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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO.

## INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY

-Subject

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Belgium

Meeting of Anti-Communist Labor Leaders in Brussels DATE DISTR. 26 Jan. 1950

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STATE

ARMY

- 1. Leaders of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU) have decided to cooperate closely with their governments in an effort to forestall communist action against the Mutual Defense Assistance Program (IDAP). The implementation of this decision was discussed at the meeting of the executive committee of the ICFTU in Brussels on 17 and 18 January.
- 2. The Belgian communist newspaper, Drapeau Rouge, published a resolution calling on dock workers in Antwerp to refuse to unload MDAP material. An almost identical resolution appeared in the French communist newspaper, Humanite, indicating cooperation between the Belgian and French Communist Parties. Communist parties are calling on workers in armament factories to walk out.
- 3. The Federation Generale du Travail de Belgique (FGTB) published warnings to workers to beware of communist activity. Another measure taken against the Communists at the ICFTU meeting was the decision to establish in Brussels a Bureau of Education and Information which ill function as soon as the ICFTU offices are established in Brussels.
- 4. The executive committee of the ICFTU seemed confident that non-communist groups would be strong enough to counteract anti-LIDAP activity.
- 5. Among the labor leaders present at this meeting were:

Paul Finet, president of the ICFTU and of the FGTB Jacobus Oldenbrock, secretary-general of the ICFTU and of the International Transport Torkers' Federation (ITF) Sir Vincent Tewson, general secretary of the TUC (Trade Unions Congress) Hans Boeckler, president of the Association of British Zone Trade Unions Irving Brown, AFL Elmor Cope, CIO.

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.

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